



# EL DORADO COUNTY

## Fish & Game Comm.

Larry Nelson - At Large  
Grady Garlough - At Large  
Dennis Byrne - Dist I  
Mike Denega - Dist II  
Kurt Mikkola - Dist III  
Pat Weddle - Dist IV  
Victor Babbitt - District V

### MINUTES

July 26, 2017, 7:00 P.M.

330 Fair Lane, Conference Room C  
Placerville, CA 95667

1. Call To Order at 7:07pm
  - 1) Roll Call – Nelson, Byrne, Weddle, Garlough, Babbitt, and Mikkola
  - 2) Shelly Blair – CDFW, Kathy Jermstad – Retired USFS
2. Adoption of Minutes of 6/28/17 and Agenda for 7/26/17 unanimously approved. Minutes of 9/2016 were submitted and also approved unanimously.
3. Public Comment – None
4. Biologists and Warden Reports – Shelly Blair summarized her deer collaring program. She is a bit discouraged with current results where she is encountering difficult capture rates, some mortality, and she could use some additional help. She is aware of a very high activity rate of the bear population everywhere. She gave an update about the beaver problem in the El Dorado Hills area update. Mikkola shared Lt. LaFave's recent warden report.
5. BOS communication –
  - 1) Foothill Yellow Legged Frog and Northern Spotted Owl – Weddle questioned what the difference, to the already federally protected and endangered status of the foothill yellow-legged, and the recent activity to include them in a state protected and endangered list. Discussion ensued. Kathy Jermstad shared her professional view of the frogs and the endangered spotted owl and other wildlife species that are able to co-exist without such radical intervention.
  - 2) A protecting El Dorado County tributary to Lake Tahoe – Babbitt shared first-hand knowledge of massive fishing pressure, this season especially, in the non-protected tributaries feeding into Lake Tahoe and suggests immediate protection using catch and release regulations, lowering take limits, and any other suitable technique to reduce the loss of these unique and healthy fisheries in the Tahoe Basin. The committee shared their support and will try to devise a strategy that may include a letter to our BOS advising them to help create a resolution or support regulation changes submitted to the State Fish and Wildlife.
6. Fishing Derbies – Babbitt informed the committee of surfacing news regarding the non-support of the annual fishing derby at Barron Lake this year by the local Moose Lodge. They are not interested in hosting and supporting the event anymore. Babbitt asked for our support to continue this long-standing annual event. In addition to that the Local Rotary has changed their annual supportive techniques by not donating directly to the Fish and Game Committee but rather try to stock it on their own. The use of our fish stocking permit was discussed with regards as to how they will plan to stock Sawmill Pond with their own stocking permit or continue to use our permit to allow stocking.

7. Finance Report – Mikkola summarized the recent financial status and mentioned it is incomplete until the books are closed in August. He will email the financial reports and a summary of the accounts prepared by Myrna Tow with the Ag Department. He mentioned how the deer decoy PO had to be renewed for this season due to the way the budget works. The latest news regarding the deer decoy is that the robotics was being finalized this week indicating the imminent shipping out to us soon. Nelson submitted another check for a fine that was levied and paid for another fish and wildlife violation. Last month alone the committee received over \$640.00 related to fines be levied for violations.
8. Legislative Report – due to time constraints and lack of available legislative activity there was a minimal amount of discussion related to legislative material.
9. Commissioner Reports –
  - 1) Byrne summarized his recent activity related to banding doves in Latrobe area and offered the opportunity to help him. He summarized recent electroshocking activity and success with Mitch Lockhart in the Deer Creek. He voiced his concern about the invasive weed recently discovered in Serrano's ponds. He mentioned the upcoming spotlighting and poaching trial is scheduled for Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30 in Depart 1 at the Placerville Courthouse. Our presence and support should be felt.
  - 2) Mikkola mentioned that EID plans to sell the Bass Lake compound and the new owners will plan on making it a community park. Mikkola mentioned the shooting band and smoking ban on all BLM land until further notice in hopes of reducing fires.
  - 3) Nelson shared the thank you letter we sent to the District Attorney's Office related to their recent interest and efforts in helping reduce the violations occurring in our county related to wildlife crimes. This is such a positive force in helping the reduction of both environmental and wildlife crimes.
  - 4) Babbitt reiterated his concerns about future fishing derby support and questions how it can be funded if the funding dries up.
10. Next meeting – 8/30/17 at Placerville Conference Room C
11. Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.